generating a header for the data to be sent to the destination appliance, the header including the network address of the destination appliance and an indication of one of the source data types of the data to be sent; and

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sending via the network the generated header along with the data to the destination appliance so that the destination appliance can use the source data type of the header to identify one or more routines for converting the data from the source data type of the header to a destination data type for rendering the converted data to a resource of the destination appliance.

144. The method of claim 143 including providing a table of known appliances that includes an appliance identifier and a routing address string.

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145. The method of claim 143 including providing a table of resources on an appliance having a resource name and a content-type address string for a resource.

146. The method of claim 143 including providing a table of special cases indicating how to convert data of one data type to the source data type.

147. The method of claim 143 wherein the generated header includes a destination data type.

148. The method of claim 143 wherein the generated header includes an identification of the resource of the destination appliance to which the data is to be rendered.

149. The method of claim 143 including converting the data to a source data type before sending the data.

150. The method of claim 143 wherein the destination appliance uses a demultiplexing algorithm to effect the conversion of the data from the source data type to the destination data type.

151. (Amended) A method in a destination appliance for receiving data sent via a network, the method comprising:

sending via the network a notification that the destination appliance is connected to the network, the notification indicating source data types that the destination appliance can render to a resource of the destination appliance;

receiving via the network from a source appliance who received the sent notification a header along with data, the header including an indication of one of the source data types as data type of the data, the header and data being received without the destination appliance requesting the data;

identifying one or more routines for converting the data from the source data type of the header to a destination data type;

executing the identified conversion routines to convert the data from the source data type to the destination data type; and

rendering the converted data to the resource of the destination appliance.

152. The method of claim 151 wherein the received header includes a destination data type.

153. The method of claim 151 wherein the header includes an identification of the resource of the destination appliance to which the data is to be rendered.

154. The method of claim 151 including demultiplexing the received data to effect the conversion of the data from the source data type to the destination data type.

155. The method of claim 151 wherein the output data type of each identified routine is compatible with the input data type of the next identified routine in a sequence of identified routines.

156. (Amended) A method for sending data via a network from a source appliance to a destination appliance, the method comprising:

receiving a notification indicating source data types that the destination appliance can render to a resource of the destination appliance;

receiving at the source appliance a request other than from the destination appliance to send data to the destination appliance; and

when the current data type of the data is not one of the source data types,

identifying an intermediate appliance that can convert the data from its current data type to one of the source data types;

generating a header for sending the data to the intermediate appliance, the header including an identification of the destination appliance and an indication of the current data type of the data; and

sending the generated header along with the data to the intermediate appliance so that the intermediate appliance can use the current data type of the header to identify one or more routines for converting the data from the current data type to a source data type and forwarding the data in the source data type to the destination appliance.

157. The method of claim 156 including providing a table of known appliances that includes an appliance identifier and a routing address string for an appliance.

158. The method of claim 156 including providing a table of resources on an appliance having a resource name and a content-type address string for a resource.

159. The method of claim 156 including providing a table of special cases indicating how to convert data of one data type to the source data type.

160. The method of claim 156 wherein the generated header includes a source data type.

161. The method of claim 156 wherein the generated header includes an identification of the resource of the destination appliance to which the data is to be rendered.

162. The method of claim 156 wherein the intermediate appliance sends a header along with the data to the destination appliance, the header including the source data type so that the destination appliance can use the source data type of the header to identify one or more routines for converting the data from the source data type of the header to a destination data type for rendering the converted data to the resource of the destination appliance.

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163. (Amended) A source appliance for sending data via a network to a destination appliance, comprising:

means for providing a network address of the destination appliance and an indication of a source data type that the destination appliance can render to a resource of the destination appliance;

means for receiving a request from a device other than from the destination appliance to send data to the destination appliance;

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means for generating a header for the data to be sent to the destination appliance, the header including the network address of the destination appliance and an indication of the source data type of the data to be sent; and

means for sending via the network the generated header along with the data to the destination appliance.

164. The source appliance of claim 163 wherein the destination appliance uses the source data type of the header to identify one or more routines for converting the data from the source data type of the header to a destination data type for rendering the converted data to the resource of the destination appliance.

165. The source appliance of claim 163 including a table of known appliances that includes an appliance identifier and a routing address string for an appliance.

166. The source appliance of claim 163 including a table of resources on an appliance having a resource name and a content-type address string for a resource.

167. The source appliance of claim 163 including a table of special cases indicating how to convert data of one data type to the source data type.

168. The source appliance of claim 163 wherein the generated header includes a destination data type.

169. The source appliance of claim 163 wherein the generated header includes an identification of the resource of the destination appliance to which the data is to be rendered.

170. The source appliance of claim 163 including means for converting the data to a source data type before sending the data.

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171. The source appliance of claim 163 wherein the destination appliance demultiplexes the data to effect the conversion of the data from the source data type to the destination data type.

172. The source appliance of claim 163 including means for sending the data to an intermediate appliance for conversion to the source data type.

173. The source appliance of claim 163 including means for converting the data from a current data type to the source data type.

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174. (Amended) A computer-readable medium for controlling an appliance to D5 send data via a network to a destination appliance, by a method comprising:

receiving a notification that the destination appliance is connected to the network and a notification of one or more source data types that the destination appliance can render to a resource of the destination appliance;

receiving a request from a device other than from the destination appliance to send data to the destination appliance; and

sending the data along with a header to the destination appliance, the header including an indication of a source data type of the data so that the destination appliance can use the source data type of the header to convert the data from the source data type of the header to a destination data type for rendering the converted data to the resource of the destination appliance.

175. The computer-readable medium of claim 174 wherein the header includes an identification of the resource of the destination appliance to which the data is to be rendered.

176. The computer-readable medium of claim 174 including converting the data to a source data type before sending the data.

177. The computer-readable medium of claim 174 wherein the destination appliance uses a demultiplexing algorithm to effect conversion of the data from the source data type to the destination data type.

178. The computer-readable medium of claim 174 including sending the data to an intermediate appliance for converting from a current data type to a source data type.

179. (New) A method in a source appliance for sending data via a network to a destination appliance, the method comprising:

receiving at the source appliance via the network a notification sent from the destination appliance indicating that the destination appliance is connected to the network, the notification indicating source data types that the destination appliance can render to a resource of the destination appliance, the destination appliance having a network address;

receiving at the source appliance a request from a remote device other than the destination appliance to send data to the destination appliance;

generating at the source appliance a header for the data to be sent to the destination appliance, the header including the network address of the destination appliance and an indication of one of the source data types of the data to be sent; and

sending from the source appliance via the network the generated header along with the data to the destination appliance so that the destination appliance can use the source data type of the header to identify one or more routines for converting the data from the source data type of the header to a destination data type for rendering the converted data to a resource of the destination appliance.

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180. (New) The method of claim 179 including:

receiving at the source appliance a request from the remote device, the request requesting identification of source resources of the source appliance and of destination appliances to which the source appliance can send data; and

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after receiving the request, sending from the source appliance to the remote device an indication of source resources of the source appliance and of destination appliances to which the source appliance can send data so that the remote device can request the source appliance to send data from a source resource to a destination appliance.

181. (New) The method of claim 180 including:

after receiving the request, sending from the source appliance to the remote device an indication of destination resources of destination appliances to which the source appliance can send data.

182. (New) The method of claim 179 including storing at the source appliance in a table of known appliances an indication of destination appliances from which notifications have been received.

183. (New) A method in a remote device for directing data to be sent via a network from a source appliance to a destination appliance, the method comprising:

sending from the remote device to the source appliance a request for identification of source resources of the source appliance and of destination appliances to which the source appliance can send data of the source resources, the source appliance having been notified of the destination appliances via notifications sent from destination appliances to the source appliance, the notifications indicating source data types that the destination appliances can process;

receiving at the remote device an indication sent from the source appliance, the indication indicating source data of the source appliance and indicating destination appliances to which the source appliance can send the source data; and

sending from the remote device to the source appliance a request to send source data of the source appliance to an indicated destination appliance.

184. (New) The method of 183 including receiving from a user of the remote device a request to send source data of the source appliance to a destination appliance.

185. (New) The method of claim 183 wherein the indication received at the remote device sent from the source appliance indicates destination resources of the destination appliances.